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Grundzüge der Naturlehre von DR. IGNAZ G.

WALLENTIN, k. k. Regierungsrat und Landesschulinspektor in Wien. Edited with notes and vocabulary by P. M. PALMER, Lehigh University. Bethlehem, Pa. Times Publishing Company, 1909.

In editing for the use of English-speaking students the first six chapters of Dr. Wallentin's book, Professor Palmer has made a welcome addition to the texts available for classes in scientific German.

The book contains 148 pages of text divided into the following chapters—(1) *Vorbegriffe*, (2) *Lehre von der Wärme*, (3) *Vorbereitung für die Chemie*, (4) *Grundlehren der Chemie*, (5) *Lehre vom Magnetismus*, (6) *Lehre von der Elektrizität*. The text is followed by notes, vocabulary, and a list of the strong and irregular verbs. The Roman type is used throughout. About fifty cuts help to make clear some of the explanations. The subject matter is of general interest, and the style, with the exception of a slight monotony in the chapter on electricity, is good.

The notes, though covering more than thirty pages, are not profuse. More than half the space devoted to notes is taken up by the so-called "word lists." At the end of the notes for each page of text is a list of the new words (without English definitions) occurring on the page in question. The value of the lists is doubtful. If a student meets an unfamiliar word he naturally turns to the vocabulary for the definition; if a word-list is to be memorized it should contain the English definitions of the words in the list. As arranged at present, the lists are entirely disregarded by the student.

The vocabulary is particularly full and well arranged. An excellent feature is the insertion of the chemical symbol under almost every definition of a chemical term—thus, "Kohlensaurer Kalk = calcium carbonate, CaCO_3 ," "Phosphorsäure = phosphoric acid, H_3PO_4 ," etc. It would have been well to carry through the principle uniformly. The omissions in this respect, however, are comparatively few. It would be well if the vocabulary indicated whether a verb is strong or weak, and thus save students the trouble of trying

to find weak verbs under the list of strong and irregular verbs.

The book was published under the direction of the Lehigh University Supply Bureau, which has adopted the commendable plan of furnishing free of charge to the instructor one pamphlet copy of the text (without notes and vocabulary) for every copy of the book used. This pamphlet can be used for examination purposes and for sight translation. Professor Palmer's edition is singularly free from misprints and omissions; it has given complete satisfaction in the class room.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

MARLOWE'S *Tamburlaine*.

To the Editors of Mod. Lang. Notes.

SIRS:—In the December (1909) number of *Modern Language Notes*, Dr. J. Douglas Bruce suggests what seems to me an unwarranted theory concerning the origin of a passage in the first part of Marlowe's *Tamburlaine*. The lines are those in Act IV, sc. 1 (ll. 1421–1435 of my edition) which describe the colour symbolism in the conqueror's camp and attire during the first three days of a siege:

'The first day when he pitcheth downe his tentes,
White is their hew, and on his siluer crest
A snowy Feather spangled white he beares,
To signify the mildnesse of his minde,
That satiate with spoile refuseth blood:
But when *Aurora* mounts the second time,
As red as scarlet is his furniture,
Then must his kindled wrath bee quencht with blood,
Not sparing any that can manage armes:
But if these threats mooue not submission,
Black are his collours, blacke Pavilion,
His speare. his shield, his horse, his armour, plumes,
And letty Feathers menace death and hell.
Without respect of Sex, degree or age,
He raceth all his foes with fire and sword.'

The same custom is mentioned in ll. 1556–66, 1639 f., 1788–91, 1848–54.